

6. (Amended) Protein according to claim 4 characterized in that it shows an oocyte maturation inducing activity and/or a cell division modulating activity.

7. (Amended) Protein according to claim 4, characterized in that it contains deletions, substitutions and/or additions of amino acids that do not substantially affect its activity.

8. (Amended) Protein according to claim 4, wherein a second protein is fused to build a fusion protein.

9. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 4, for inducing oocyte maturation and/or modulating cell division and/or differentiation and/or proliferation.

10. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition containing as active agent a protein according to claim 5.

13. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 4, as a diagnostic marker for cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation.

14. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 4 as a target for the identification of drugs that modulate cell cycle progression and/or cell proliferation and/or cell differentiation.